



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service  
**Wyoming Crop Weather**



Wyoming Field Office  
PO Box 1148 · Cheyenne, WY 82003  
307-432-5600 • FAX 307-432-5598 • [www.nass.usda.gov/wy](http://www.nass.usda.gov/wy)

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**Week of May 14 – 20, 2012**

**AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY:** Warmer temperatures and some spring showers were received throughout the state last week, although dry conditions still persist.

Many ranchers have voiced concerns of poor grazing and little to no hay production this year. Producers are becoming worried about the grazing shortcoming. There is still a need for moisture to help recover the losses being experienced now. Warmer than normal temperatures and no moisture have caused the topsoil and a good part of the subsoil to dry out. Crops are greening up where there is irrigation water. Sheridan County reported water restrictions on Big Goose and Little Goose rivers. The Tongue River is flowing 50 percent less than normal. Some Converse County ranchers are selling yearlings and cows in above normal quantities. Some have started feeding hay since the grass has not grown. Platte County is 40 percent below normal rain fall for this time of year. Platte County reported some areas could have limited irrigation water because of the reduced snow pack. High temperatures range from the mid-70's to 90 degrees. Low temperatures ranged from the 20's to 40 degrees. Farm activities included moving cattle and sheep to pastures, setting up irrigation systems, planting oats, wheat, corn, dry beans, assisting with calving and lambing and shearing sheep.

**SOIL MOISTURE SUPPLIES**

Topsoil	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg
Very Short	15	12	0	2
Short	45	44	8	17
Adequate	40	44	76	73
Surplus	0	0	16	8

**FIELD CROP REPORT:** Days suitable for field work were 6.3. Topsoil moisture was rated 60 percent short to very short compared to 8 percent last year. Crop plantings and emergence are well ahead of the progress last year and for the 5-year average. Crop conditions are showing a decline due to the lack of moisture. Crop insect infestation is starting to show an increase.

**CROP CONDITION TABLE**

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excel
Barley	0	1	42	54	3
Oats	0	1	65	34	0
Spring Wheat	0	0	52	48	0
Winter Wheat	0	1	54	45	0
Alfalfa Hay	4	10	38	46	2
Other Hay	3	9	55	32	1

**CROP PROGRESS TABLE**

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg
Barley Emerged	90	82	58	60
Barley Jointed	29	2	0	5
Oats Planted	95	89	69	74
Oats Emerged	72	53	32	43
Oats Jointed	6		0	4
Spring Wheat Planted	98	92	61	70
Spring Wheat Emerged	75	58	14	34
Spring Wheat Jointed	5		0	3
Winter Wheat Jointed	88	73	66	64
Winter Wheat Boot	39	16	0	7
Sugarbeets Emerged	39	10	11	33
Corn Planted	92	46	59	70
Corn Emerged	56	6	6	10
Dry Beans Planted	15	9	2	13

**LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE REPORT:**

Livestock are being moved to summer pastures although forage is reported as dry; 51 percent of cattle and 45 percent of sheep have been moved thus far. Calving and farm flock lambing are wrapping up with both 97 percent complete. Range flock lambing is 53 percent complete. Farm and range flock sheep shorn are more than 90 percent complete. Calf losses are unchanged from the previous week, while lamb losses showed an increase. Range and pasture conditions showed a slight improvement with the rains.

**LIVESTOCK PROGRESS TABLE**

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg
Spring Calves Born	97	93	95	96
Farm Flock Ewes Lambed	97	94	96	96
Farm Flock Sheep Shorn	96	92	97	96
Range Flock Ewes Lambed	53	42	47	58
Range Flock Sheep Shorn	91	78	91	86

**RANGE AND PASTURE CONDITIONS**

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg
Very Poor	7	5	0	1
Poor	26	13	6	9
Fair	44	47	14	29
Good	23	35	77	55
Excellent	0	0	3	6

**STOCK WATER SUPPLIES**

	This Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg
Very Short	2	0	1
Short	40	1	13
Adequate	57	75	80
Surplus	1	24	6

**WEATHER SUMMARY:** High temperatures range from 75 degrees in Yellowstone, Laramie and Shirley Basin to 92 degrees in Douglas and Lance Creek. Low temperatures ranged from 20 degrees in Shirley Basin to 41 degrees in Buffalo, Lander and Greybull. Temperatures ranged from 4 degrees above average in Jackson Hole and Fort Laramie to 12 degrees above average in Buford. All reporting stations with the exception of Shirley Basin and Chugwater received some precipitation. Big Horn received the most precipitation at 0.99 inch, followed by Lander at 0.93 inch. Four stations received above average precipitation for the week, while Yellowstone is the only station reporting above normal precipitation for the year. Cheyenne is the farthest behind, reporting 3.93 inches below average for the year.

Weather Data for the Week Ending May 20, 2012 <sup>1</sup>

	Weekly Air Temperature				Weekly Precipitation			Since Jan 1 Precipitation	
	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total Inches	Normal Inches	DFN	Total Inches	DFN
<b>DISTRICT 1</b>									
Cody	84	39	60	7	0.16	0.49	-0.33	1.18	-2.51
Dubois	79	28	51	6	0.29	0.38	-0.09	1.61	-1.65
Greybull	90	41	64	8	0.17	0.35	-0.18	1.47	-1.30
Jeffrey City	80	29	55	6	0.38	0.54	-0.16	2.76	-1.88
Lake Yellowstone	75	25	49	11	0.17	0.49	-0.32	10.52	2.55
Lander	86	41	61	8	0.93	0.56	0.37	3.67	-2.39
Powell	86	35	59	5	0.37	0.35	0.02	1.50	-0.53
Riverton	85	40	61	8	0.27	0.42	-0.15	1.42	-1.53
Worland	90	38	63	5	0.30	0.42	-0.12	1.01	-1.87
<b>District 2</b>									
Big Horn	84	37	59	7	0.99	0.56	0.43	5.06	-0.66
Buffalo-Johnson	83	41	61	8	0.53	0.56	-0.03	3.66	-1.15
Gillette	90	34	60	6	0.26	0.70	-0.44	4.82	-1.45
Midwest	90	38	61	8	0.27	0.63	-0.36	2.58	-2.98
Newcastle	90	34	64	9	0.52	0.57	-0.05	3.98	-1.07
Sheridan	87	37	59	6	0.86	0.63	0.23	4.33	-0.75
Sundance	87	38	61	8	0.21	0.63	-0.42	5.73	-0.72
<b>District 3</b>									
Afton	79	28	53	7	0.48	0.50	-0.02	6.49	-0.75
Big Piney	78	26	53	7	0.12	0.28	-0.16	0.94	-1.65
Evanston	78	38	56	8	0.08	0.35	-0.27	1.02	-3.34
Jackson Hole	77	27	50	4	0.34	0.49	-0.15	6.12	-2.98
<b>District 4</b>									
Casper	88	37	61	9	0.32	0.56	-0.24	3.97	-1.31
Laramie	75	25	52	6	0.21	0.42	-0.21	1.57	-2.27
Rawlins	81	28	57	6	0.15	0.35	-0.20	1.85	-1.99
Rock Springs	80	38	58	9	0.07	0.32	-0.25	1.56	-2.35
Shirley Basin	75	20	48	5	0.00	0.39	-0.39	2.93	-0.32
<b>District 5</b>									
Buford	82	29	57	12	0.26	0.46	-0.20	3.38	-1.99
Cheyenne	80	35	58	6	0.18	0.59	-0.41	1.24	-3.93
Chugwater	84	34	60	8	0.00	0.70	-0.70	2.35	-3.43
Douglas	92	32	61	8	0.08	0.58	-0.50	1.89	-3.08
Lance Creek	92	35	62	8	0.15	0.56	-0.41	1.76	-2.85
Old Fort Laramie	89	27	59	4	0.05	0.50	-0.45	1.75	-2.72
Torrington	90	34	63	7	0.04	0.62	-0.58	1.61	-3.22
Wheatland	87	33	61	5	0.17	0.58	-0.41	2.05	-2.23

1/ Summary based on NWS data. DFN=Departure from Normal. Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches. Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit. Weather data prepared by AWIS, Inc. For more weather information visit [www.awis.com](http://www.awis.com) or call 1-888-798-9955